

**REMARKS**

Consistent with the Sequence Listing filed concurrently herewith, applicants amend the Specification of the instant application as indicated above. No new matter is believed to be at issue, and entry and early action on the merits are respectfully requested.

**AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the associated fees which may be required for this Preliminary Amendment, or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 50-1710.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Serge Sira", is written over a horizontal line.

Serge Sira, PH.D.  
Registration No. 39,445  
Gilberto M. Villacorta, PH.D.  
Registration No. 34,038

Dated: September 9, 2004

Patent Administrator  
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN  
525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1600  
Chicago, Illinois 60661-3693  
Facsimile: (312) 902-1061